



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



PAUL FOSTER, CHAIRMAN

FERNANDO P. TIRADO, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 21st, 2011

Meeting held at: Botanical Garden ♦ Bronx, New York 10458

- I) Public Session opened up at 6:40pm
- II) Paul thanked the Botanical Garden for their hospitality at tonight's meeting and their support throughout the year
- III) Public Session / Speakers:
 - A) Michael Mascetti, Science Schools Initiative:
 - 1) Spoke about the work his agency does to enable youngsters to prepare for entrance into the top high schools in the city
 - B) Aaron Bouska, VP Community Relations for NY Botanical Garden:
 - 1) Introduced himself and shared events that were happening in the Garden. He invited all to com and share in the activities
 - 2) He is requesting support at this time to prevent budget cuts
 - C) Deputy Inspector Dowling, 52nd Precinct:
 - 1) Stats were reviewed
 - 2) He reported the increase in burglaries and the need to secure one's residence
 - 3) He noted arrests that were on-going
 - 4) He reported that Grand Larceny along Fordham Road is a problem. Cases involving young people were cited and the need to help teenagers turn their lives around and lead a useful life after one incident
 - 5) Gang activity was discussed and the on-going vigilance by the police is in place
 - D) Angel Hernandez, Bronx Historical Society:
 - 1) Talked about the restoration of the Poe Cottage and the opening of the Poe Park Visitor's Center in Poe Park, which will attract tourists from all over the world
 - 2) Education programs are planned and all are invited for the opening day, sometime during the summer
 - E) Joe Lee, Board Member:
 - 1) Joe announced that "Pop-up" piano program will have 4 places in CB7 for the program
 - F) Ricky Martinez, 100 Democrats Chair:
 - 1) Invites all to the Annual barbecue on Lisbon Place on July 30th at 1pm
 - G) Michael Lambert, MPC:
 - 1) Thanked the Board for the partnership between his organization and CB7
 - H) Walter Bell, Board Member:
 - 1) Reported on clean-up activities sponsored by his organization throughout Community Board #7
 - I) Eddie Ramos, Electrician:
 - 1) Thanked the CB for the support of Union Labor for work jobs in the Bronx
 - J) Sefam Aspinal, St. James Parks Residents:
 - 1) She is requesting a dog run in St. James Park. She has a petition to support this request
 - 2) She cited housing issues that are in violation of housing safety and renting rules. Wiring violations are visible. She was referred to the related committees for follow up on the complaints
 - K) Brandon Rutishauser, Community Resident:
 - 1) This was his last meeting at CB7 as we will be attending college
 - L) Maryann Rosa, Senator Rivera's rep:



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- 1) Report from Albany about rent laws and same-sex marriage health issue will be addressed by the Senator
- 2) The Senator vows to lose 20 lbs. to support a more healthy living
- IV) Public Session ended, and Meeting opened at 7:40pm
 - A) Motion for approval of Agenda/Minutes was unanimously approved
 - B) A question about the District Service Cabinet Minutes arose; Minutes will be available as requested
- V) Chairperson's Report by Paul Foster:
 - A) An award for services to the Community was presented to Sally Dunford from West Bronx Housing
 - B) Sally thanked CB7 for the award and made remarks about the services available from her agency
- VI) Executive Committee Report by Ozzie Brown:
 - A) Ozzie Brown thanked the Board for the services provided by them to the community
 - B) He cited the Old Fordham Library and the possibility of developing this site for youth programs
 - C) Ozzie presented the following motions (see attached for more details):
 - 1) MOTION 1A – Recommendation that all motions coming from committees shall be presented to the Executive Committee for discussion prior to being presented to the general body
 - a) A discussion ensued
 - b) An amendment to add the word “smaller” was made. It should read: The Executive Committee meeting allows for a great participation of all members to speak on the subject presented because of the “smaller” size of the group compared to the General body. The amendment was voted on and accepted.
 - c) Motion 1A was voted on and passed unanimously
 - 2) MOTION 1B – Recommendation that all motions made by a committee that are going to be discussed either at the Executive Committee or at the General Board meeting must be posted on the website within 36 hours after a committee meeting in order to provide the community with the opportunity to comment on the motion
 - a) Motion 1B was voted on and passed unanimously
 - 3) MOTION 1C – Proposed change in By-Laws: Recommendation that the Executive Committee is mandated by the General body of the board to act on its behalf on all business matters that would have come to the General body for approval during the recess period
 - a) A discussion ensued
 - b) A motion to amend Motion 1C
 - i) 19 voted in favor of an amendment
 - ii) 2 voted in opposition of an amendment
 - 4) Motion 1C was voted on
 - a) 19 voted in favor
 - b) 3 voted in opposition
- VII) Committee Reports:
 - A) Parks & Recreation:
 - 1) A motion to send a letter supporting the skating rink in VC Park
 - 2) Motion to send letter was approved
 - a) 1 voted “No”
 - 3) MOTION 2 - Re: \$15,000
 - a) A motion in support of the use of the \$15,000 which was appropriated by Councilman Cabrera for the beautification of an area close to the Harlem River Waterfront. The Committee voted to go forward with the original site picks on Bailey Avenue for the Regatta Park beautification plan
 - 4) It was decided that this motion was already approved and did not need to be voted on again
 - 5) 3 meetings will be held during the summer



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- B) Traffic & Transportation:
 - 1) Parking spaces discussion
- C) Youth Services:
 - 1) Discussed on-going youth activities and proposed services
- D) Technology:
 - 1) Discussion of the Website and the Facebook and use by CB Members
- VIII) Elected Officials:
 - A) Andy Toledo, Borough President's Office:
 - 1) Food Stamp specialist available
 - 2) Foreclosure specialist
 - 3) New Board member training
 - B) Sallie Caldwell, Naomi Rivera's Office:
 - 1) Reps in Albany dealing with rent regulations and same-sex marriage bills
 - C) George Diaz, Oliver Koppell's Office:
 - 1) Rx Cards are available at Koppell's Office
 - 2) He sends greetings to all
 - D) Greg Faulkner, Fernando Cabrera's Office:
 - 1) Budget issues are a concern
 - 2) Open access to city government
 - 3) Comp-Stats reports to be broken down by area
 - 4) Wi-Fi Access
 - 5) Medallions for Cabs
 - 6) Lighting on Bailey Avenue
 - 7) Jobs for the community advocates
 - E) Election Committee:
 - 1) Voting for the election of officers
 - 2) Ballots were distributed
 - 3) The new board members were introduced
 - a) Walter Bell
 - b) Bree Brown Rosa
- IX) District Manager's Report by District Manager:
 - A) 26 signed ballots
 - B) 26 unanimous votes for all but 1 person
 - C) 25 votes for Andy Laiosa
 - D) Picture of Board Members was taken
- X) Meeting adjourned at 9:15



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MOTIONS - Tuesday, June 21, 2011

Motion I.A.

Whereas: The Executive Committee is the second highest decision making body of the board, the first being the general body and;

Whereas: The Executive Committee consists of all committee chairs of the board and the elected board members, which constitute the leadership of the board and;

Whereas: The Executive Committee meeting allows for a great participation of all members to speak on the subject presented because of the "smaller" size of the group compared to the General body and;

Therefore: Let it be resolved that for a period of 6 months, all motions coming from committees shall be presented to the Executive Committee for discussion prior to being presented to the general body;

Let it be further resolved that any motion rejected by the Executive Committee will require two thirds of the general body at a quorum meeting to be considered for discussion at the meeting;

Let it be further resolved that any motion brought up by a committee after the Executive Committee has met will be evaluated by the elected board members and recommendation made whether the motion ought to be presented at the general board meeting or sent to the next Executive Committee meeting for discussion.



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Motion I.B.

Whereas: It is in the interest of the Community Board 7 to be transparent in all of its dealings and;

Whereas: It is essential that the community be kept informed of different activities the board is discussing and planning and;

Whereas: It is vital that the opinion of the community be heard and;

Whereas: The website is the best method the board has available for communicating with the community;

Therefore: Let it be resolved that all motions made by a committee that are going to be discussed either at the Executive Committee or at the general board meeting must be posted on the website within 36 hours after a committee meeting in order to provide the community with the opportunity to comment on the motion;

Let it be further resolved that any motion that requires immediate attention by the board can be waived from the aforementioned period by the chair of the board or two thirds of the voting members of the full Executive Committee;

Let it be further resolved that all committee agendas will be posted on the website at least one week in advance of committee meetings.



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Motion I.C.

This motion addresses the period during which the board is in recess throughout the summer months.

- Where As: The board goes into recess during the summer months of July and August making it impossible to have a general board meeting and;
- Where As: The business of the community board does not stop during the aforementioned months and;
- Where As: While the board is in recess certain board business might require the approval of the general body;
- Therefore: Let it be resolved that the Executive Committee is mandated by the general body of the board to act on its behalf on all business matters that would have come to the general body for approval during the recess period.